

# PARADISE POINT CAMP

The Episcopal Church in Idaho McCall, ID

# STAFF IN TRAINING (SIT) INFORMATION

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Registrar: Renee Rohman | <u>Registrar@Episcopalidaho.org</u> | 208-830-9144 Camp Director: Scott Webb | <u>CampDirector@Episcopalidaho.org</u> | 208-297-3423

# **STAFF IN TRAINING DATES FOR 2025 SEASON**

Monday, July 14 (2pm) – Saturday, July 26 (10am)

## **INCLUSION STATEMENT**

Paradise Point values and respects the dignity of all individuals, which includes all races, denominations, gender identification, and sexual orientation. We do this by training and educating our staff, notifying all participants of our programming, and reinforcement of these values when necessary. We are inclusive and affirming of trans\* and non-binary people (campers, volunteers, and staff). As part of our commitment to inclusivity we use pronouns in introductions.

# **BALANCE DUES/REFUND/CANCELLATION POLICY**

Session balances are due one week before the first day of the registered session. If there is an outstanding balance during the check-in process of that registered session the parent/guardian must either pay in full or set up a payment plan. A \$100 per session non-refundable deposit is due at the time of registration. A \$100 cancellation fee will be charged if a reservation is canceled less than one week before the first day of camp. Due to the challenge of filling spaces, no refunds will be issued on or after the first day of the registered session. In cases of homesickness, dismissal or voluntary withdrawal, no refunds will be issued. All refunds will be processed within 30 days of the last day of the camp season. Cancellations for camp provided transportation within 7 days of arrival day will not be reimbursed.

### **SIT EXPECTATIONS**

All Staff-In-Training Campers at Paradise Point Camp agree to respect camp staff, their fellow campers, wildlife, and the camp property. For their own safety, the safety of others, and for the safekeeping of Paradise Point, SITs agree to follow the Paradise Point guidelines as presented on the first day of camp. SITs agree to stay in their cabins after "lights out" unless their counselor gives them permission to leave the cabin. SITs agree to respect other camper's privacy and not to take cameras into the bathhouse and will use the "2 + Me = 3" buddy system at all times, never going off by themselves. Staff In Training campers are leaders at camp and are held to a higher expectation for behavior that aligns with Paradise Point Camp's values of inclusivity, active participation and leadership than youth campers.

### **MEDICAL CARE**

Each Youth Camp session has an On-Site Health Care Provider on camp property for the week. All Paradise Point staff have been first aid and CPR trained. In case of an emergency, arrangements for treatment have been made with the St. Luke's McCall Medical Center, which is about eight miles from Camp. In the event the Paradise Point On-Site Health Care Provider determines it is necessary for a camper to visit the doctor's office or emergency room, the camper's insurance is billed. Parents/Guardians will be notified prior to any doctor or emergency room visits. If you plan to be away for any length of time during your child's time at camp please arrange for a relative or friend to be able to pick-up your child should they become ill and verify that this adult is listed as an Authorized Pickup.

### **MEDICATIONS**

Following best practices for medication intake, Paradise Point Camp requires all medications sent to camp *(prescription and nonprescription)* to be pre-packaged by a pharmacist, parent/guardian, or camp staff. To decrease the risk of medication errors, Paradise Point Camp will approve only the following pre-packaged forms of medication:

#### Pharmacy packed blister packs

Many pharmacies (Albertsons, CVS) will prepare a week of medication in blister or bubble packs, often at no cost to you. Call your pharmacy and ask them to prepare a weeklong blister pack for your camper, divided by day and dispensing time. This is the best option, ensuring that your camper gets the correct medication at the right time of day and is simple for the on-site health care provider to confirm all information. Most pharmacies will include non-prescription medications like supplements, vitamins or daily allergy medications while packing prescription blister packs.

#### Parent/guardian packed blister packs

You can prepare your camper's medications before camp. Medications need to be in tamper-evident packaging (no Ziplock or reusable pill organizers, please) and separated by day and delivery time. <u>Paradise Point Camp recommends cold seal at-home blister packing</u>. You will also need to provide a printed copy of the prescription information (must include camper's name, delivery information and relevant warnings). Your help pre-packaging blister packs ensures accurate medication delivery, speeds up the check-in process and helps keep our on-site health care provider and staff organized. You may also include non-prescription supplements, vitamins, or daily allergy medications in the blister packs- just be sure to include the information in the printed summary.

#### Paradise Point Camp medicine packing

For an additional fee of \$35, Paradise Point Camp will blister pack medications for your camper at drop-off while you wait. Prescriptions must be brought to camp in their original containers printed with the name of your camper, delivery information and all warnings. Any extra medications will be returned to the parent/guardian at the time the blister pack is filled. Paradise Point Camp will only pack medications for campers *at camp*, *not at any bus stop locations*.

<u>The important information for the on-site health care provider to confirm prescription information</u>: camper name, prescription information (must confirm medication is prescribed to the camper and include delivery information), and medication warnings (Ex: Do not eat grapefruit with medication).

Exceptions to the blister pack policy include: Epi-pens, inhalers, drops, liquids or creams, as-needed medication (PRNs), any rescue-medication that needs to be accessible to the camper, and birth control.

Paradise Point Camp keeps a health center stocked with over-the-counter medications for the care of your camper. Please do not send any unnecessary medications with your camper.

### LICE: NO NIT POLICY

Paradise Point is committed to taking precautions (not sharing hair brushes, hats, etc.) to minimize the risk of lice infestation among our campers and staff. Please read the following information carefully as no refunds will be issued if lice or nits are found and the camper is unable to be treated and return to camp in the registered session.

Children with any evidence of lice, including nits (egg casings), will not be able to participate in the camp session. The camper will need to seek treatment for the lice and/or nits at home. Campers with nits or egg casings can return to camp after 24 hours post-treatment and after a re-screen with no nits or egg casings found. If your child has had head lice or has been exposed to them within four weeks prior to their arrival at camp, please notify us.

Additional information on head lice & its treatment can be found at https://www.headlice.org/downloads/nonitpolicy.htm

### **DIETARY NEEDS**

Paradise Point Camp is a peanut-free facility. Please do not send or bring any food or peanut items to camp.

It is our desire that all participants be able to experience Paradise Point without concern or anxiety of dietary restrictions. We can meet a variety of dietary restrictions, including vegetarian, gluten, dairy, egg, and nut allergies. To meet the needs of these participants, it is necessary to obtain as much information as possible **prior to the arrival** at camp. List any special dietary needs during the registration process. Please be as specific as possible regarding the exact nature and severity of any allergy or intolerance.

Please note that we will make every effort to accommodate dietary restrictions. However, due to our open kitchen that handles major allergens (gluten, wheat, dairy, nuts, etc.) we cannot guarantee that items will be completely "free" of any ingredient. While Paradise Point works to provide meals which meet these special needs as much as possible, it is the responsibility of the individual to avoid those foods that they are unable to eat. In certain cases, we allow participants to bring some of their own food items, made available to campers at meal and snack times.

### **TRANSPORTATION**

Paradise Point offers transportation to and from Pocatello, Jerome, Boise, Emmett, and Weiser. All transportation will be supervised by Paradise Point Staff and/or Camp Volunteers. <u>Paradise Point Camp does not allow self or peer transportation to/from camp if camp provided transportation is available from the camper's location.</u>

Costs are as follows:

**POCATELLO**: \$40 One-way /\$80 Roundtrip **BOISE**: \$30 One Way/\$60 Roundtrip

JEROME: \$35 One Way/\$70 Roundtrip EMMETT AND WEISER: \$20 One Way/\$40 Roundtrip

| 1 <sup>st</sup> Day of Camp: CAMPER DROP-OFF   | Last Day of Camp: CAMPER PICK-UP  |
|--|---|
| 7:30 AM - Depart from Parking lot next to Trinity Episcopal<br>Church and across from Pocatello High School<br>325 N. Arthur Ave.<br>Pocatello, ID 83204 | 10:00 AM - Depart Paradise Point  |
| 9:30 AM - Depart from Comfort Inn & Suites<br>379 Crossroads Point Blvd<br>Jerome, ID 83338  | <b>12:00 PM</b> - Arrive at St. Luke's Episcopal Church<br>106 E Liberty St<br>Weiser, ID 83672   |
| <ul> <li>11:15 AM - Depart from St. Stephen's Episcopal Church</li> <li>2206 N. Cole Road</li> <li>Boise, ID 83704</li> </ul>                            | 1:00 PM - Arrive at St. Mary's Episcopal Church<br>219 E 1st St.<br>Emmett, ID 83617  |
| 12:30 PM - Depart from St. Mary's Episcopal Church<br>219 E 1st St.<br>Emmett, ID 83617  | 1:45 PM - Arrive at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church<br>2206 N. Cole Road<br>Boise, ID 83704  |
| 1:30 PM - Depart from St. Luke's Episcopal Church<br>106 E Liberty St<br>Weiser, ID 83672  | 4:00 PM - Arrive at Comfort Inn & Suites<br>379 Crossroads Point Blvd<br>Jerome, ID 83338   |
| <b>3:30 PM -</b> Arrive at Paradise Point  | 6:00 PM - Arrive at the Parking lot next to Trinity Episcopal<br>Church, across from Pocatello High School<br>325 N. Arthur Ave.<br>Pocatello, ID 83204 |

### **ARRIVAL DAY**

All required forms must be completed prior to arrival day

#### During Check-In at any location, you are able to:

- Add money and check your Brown Bear store account
- Drop off any medications for your child with instructions. See Medication section for more information.
  - At camp you will be able to talk with the on-site health care provider. While at the Health Center, the on-site health care provider will talk individually with campers and parents about their health information and be given a head-to-toe to look for any existing conditions, check hair for lice, and go over medications or allergies.
  - At bus pick-up locations you will be able to drop off any medications and instructions with the Paradise Point staff member who will relay all information to the camp on-site health care provider. Bus campers will meet with the on-site health care provider as soon as they arrive at camp to talk about their health information and be given a head-to-toe to look for any existing conditions, check hair for lice, and go over medications or allergies.

**Dropping your camper off at camp:** Please plan to arrive at Paradise Point between **2:00-3:00 PM** on the first day of camp. If you are early, you are welcome to wait at the top of the hill. The entrance gate will be closed until 1:45 PM. You will be greeted by a staff member who will direct you to parking and the check-in table, which is located outside the King Lodge. If you drop your camper off at camp, you may have the opportunity to meet their counselor.

**Dropping your camper off at any bus location:** Check in begins **30 minutes prior** to the departure time. A Paradise Point staff member will be at each bus pick-up location to greet you and check-in your camper. Staff may be riding the bus with campers and will not be available prior to bus arrival.

**Other Arrival Day procedures:** If your child has any electronics, (cell phones, tablets, game systems etc.) please take them with you as they are not allowed on camp. Any electronics brought to Camp will be labeled and stored for the week. Paradise Point is not responsible for lost or damaged electronic items while stored at camp. Exceptions to electronics holding policy include digital cameras.

The bus is scheduled to arrive at camp at 3:30 PM. By 3:45 PM all campers are with their cabin groups participating in a camp tour, visiting the Health Center, Brown Bear (camp store) and unpacking in their cabins.

- o At Brown Bear all campers are reminded of the amount in their store account and will have their pictures taken, which are then uploaded onto their online registration account.
- o After Counselors help campers unpack in their cabins, they will discuss and agree to cabin group guidelines which will be hung in their cabin for the week.

If a camper has not been checked-in by 5:00 PM, Paradise Point office staff will make phone calls to the Primary and Secondary contacts on the campers' account. If we have not received communication from the campers' contacts by 9:00 PM on arrival day, the open spot will be offered to the next camper on the wait-list. No show campers are responsible for paying the balance of the registered camp on their account – no refunds are given.

**Swim test-** On the first day of camp campers will have the option to participate in the swim test (4 lengths in between the docks & treading water for 2 minutes). If campers choose to not take it or do not pass, they will only be able to swim in specific swimming areas or required to wear a lifejacket. Campers are encouraged to try again throughout the week.

### **DEPARTURE DAY**

Campers will only be signed-out to those listed on their account. If you are picking up your camper, but are not listed on the account, they will be unable to leave until the primary or secondary contacts have been reached to confirm.

#### During Check-Out at any location, you are able to:

- Sign out your camper after showing your photo ID: PHOTO ID IS REQUIRED TO CHECK OUT ANY CAMPER
- Pick-up any medications (any medications left will be held until Labor Day and then discarded)

**Picking your camper up at camp** – Please plan to be at camp between **10:00-11:00 AM** on the last day of camp. If your camper is not picked up before 12:30 PM your account will be charged a \$35 late pick-up fee.

**Picking your camper up at any bus location** – Please be there according to the time listed under the Transportation section. We do our best to make sure the bus leaves each location on-time. For locations early in the day, please arrive 15 minutes prior to scheduled bus arrival time.

| Week One |  | Week Two |   |
|----------|--|----------|---|
| 7:30     | Wakeup Bell  | 7:30     | Wakeup Bell                                     |
| 8:00     | Breakfast  | 8:00     | Breakfast                                       |
| 9:00     | Chapel (Morning Celebration)   | 9:00     | Chapel (Morning Celebration)                    |
| 9:30     | Cabin Cleanup  | 9:30     | Cabin Cleanup                                   |
| 10:00    | SIT Training (topics include: safety, behavior<br>management, food safety, and team building | 10:00    | Assist in Activity Choice                       |
| 12:30    | Lunch  | 12:30    | Lunch   |
| 1:30     | Meeting with Leadership Development Coordinator  | 1:30     | Meeting with Leadership Development Coordinator |
| 2:30     | Waterfront & Brown Bear  | 2:30     | Waterfront & Brown Bear                         |
| 4:30     | Camper Clean-up  | 4:30     | Camper Clean-up                                 |
| 5:00     | SIT Training (topics include: safety, behavior management, food safety, and team building    | 5:00     | Cabin Connections (with cabin)                  |
| 6:00     | Dinner   | 6:00     | Dinner  |
| 7:00     | Chapel (Evening Reflections)   | 7:00     | Chapel (Evening Reflections)                    |
| 7:30     | All Camp Game (help lead)  | 8:00     | All Camp Game (with cabin)                      |
| 8:30     | Campfire   | 8:30     | Campfire  |
| 9:15     | SIT Social Time  | 9:15     | SIT Social Time                                 |
| 10:00    | SIT Reflections  | 10:00    | Reflections (with cabin)                        |
| 10:30    | Lights Out   | 10:30    | Lights Out                                      |

# A TYPICAL DAILY SCHEDULE

# **CABIN ASSIGNMENTS**

As an SIT, you will be staying at camp for two full weeks. During week 1 you will be staying in a cabin with other SITs of the same gender; during week 2, you will stay in a camper cabin with a Paradise Point Camp Counselor and possibly a Junior Staff member. The first week you will spend most of the day with other SITs following an SIT specific schedule to help you learn what it takes to

become a staff member at Paradise Point. The second week you will be assigned a Cabin, shadowing staff throughout each day and working with campers.

## LOST & FOUND

On a daily basis, lost and found items will be placed on Trust Rock (the rock in the central gathering area) for campers to claim. On departure day, we do a lost and found fashion show during breakfast to return items found to campers. Anything not claimed will be displayed at camp on the Check-Out table during departure day. An online form will be sent out after each session to connect lost and found items with their owners. Lost and found items can be picked up at camp, the Diocesan Office in Boise, or be shipped at an additional charge. All leftover items are donated at the end of the summer. Please label all your camper's items to help prevent missing items. Link to form: <a href="https://forms.gle/KmNY1haCUqFNPuRF7">https://forms.gle/KmNY1haCUqFNPuRF7</a>

## **MORNING CELEBRATIONS & EVENING REFLECTIONS**

As an Episcopal camp, Paradise Point promotes Christian values throughout the camp activities, such as love, compassion, prayer, and forgiveness. Paradise Point Camp staff offer daily Morning Celebration and Evening Reflections and a one-hour Spiritual Connection time during the week for every camper. Each summer, the curriculum for the spiritual program changes: however, the twice daily structure remains the same.

At the end of each week, a priest from within the Episcopal Church in Idaho will volunteer their time at camp to provide support for campers and staff and allow campers to experience an instructional Eucharist (ceremonial consecration and consumption of bread and wine). Although all campers will be present during the instructional Eucharist, it is not mandatory for all campers to participate. This is an opportunity for all to learn what Eucharist is about and why it is sacred. Staff and campers have the option to take communion, receive a prayer, or just observe. The Episcopal Church uses red wine in Communion celebration. Paradise Point welcomes campers and staff of all beliefs and denominations, and camp staff are trained in the philosophy of "all may, some should, and none must."

### OFF-CAMP TRIPS

Anytime campers leave Paradise Point property, the following rules are in place:

- There are always, at a minimum, two staff members responsible for the group of campers. The same camper-to-staff ratios apply off-camp as on-camp, so the more campers going on a trip, the more staff are sent.
- Staff that drive campers on these off-camp trips have special training in order to drive the vehicles specific for these off-camp trips. They must have valid driver's licenses and are covered under the Paradise Point insurance policy.
- All staff are trained in CPR & First Aid and the Lead Staff of each off-camp trip will carry a cell phone or two-way radio in case of emergencies.

### THINGS TO BRING TO CAMP

Jeans/long pants

Sweatshirts/Jackets

Underwear & socks for 6 days

2 Swimsuits (appropriate for

Shorts

T-shirts

Pajamas

high activity)

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Please label all items and help your camper pack his/her/their own bag for camp. Items are more often lost when a camper doesn't know what was packed for them. Campers staying for more than one week will need to pack accordingly. Please check the weather report for McCall for your camper's upcoming session. Most activities are outside. Paradise Point Camp's philosophy is: there is no bad weather, only bad gear! Laundry will be done once over the weekend for SIT campers. Do NOT pack medications (prescriptions or over-the-counter) OR money for the Camp Store in your luggage. Please bring them to Check-In on arrival day.

#### Suggested Packing list

- o Tennis shoes/hiking shoes
- o Flip-flops/water shoes
- o Hat/cap for hot/cold weather
- o Gloves for cool weather
- o Dirty clothes bag
- o Sleeping bag & pillow
- o 2 Towels: beach/shower
- o Soap/shampoo

- o Toothpaste/toothbrush
- o Chapstick
- o Paper/envelopes & stamps
- o Journal or small notebook
- o Daypack
- o Water bottle
- o Flashlight or Headlamp
- o Sunscreen (30 SPF minimum)
- o Bug Spray

#### Paradise Point is not responsible for lost items. Please label everything!

### THINGS TO LEAVE AT HOME

Please leave any medication (except prescription which is administered by the on-site health care provider), drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, lighters or matches, fireworks, weapons, ammunition, knives or multi-tools at home. Please leave electronics at home, including speakers, gaming devices, laptops and tablets. If an SIT brings prohibited items to Camp, it may result in them being sent home. Any prohibited items that are brought to Camp and found after the Parents/Guardians leave will be stored in the Camp Office. Paradise Point is not responsible for these stored items if they are lost or damaged.

SIT Campers are allowed to use their cell phones during the stay-over weekend. SITs will be encouraged to use this time to call home; however, this is not a requirement. If your SIT has a cell phone they would like to use during the stay-over weekend, they will need to check them in during Check-In on arrival day. All SIT phones will be labeled and stored for the week. **Paradise Point is not responsible for lost or damaged SIT Camper Phones while at camp.** 

## DRESS CODE

Paradise Point strives for a standard of dress that is in accordance with our values of inclusivity and active participation. Please help your camper pack accordingly. Do not bring clothes that reference drugs or alcohol or have inappropriate innuendos. Make sure shorts, dresses, and skirts are an appropriate length for being highly active and swimsuits do not slip/move/become immodest while being active in the water or on the beach. Staff in Training are role models for younger campers and should consider their position as a role model while packing for camp.

### **STAYOVER WEEKEND**

SITs will be staying at camp for 2 full sessions. Campers enjoy a more laid-back camp weekend, do their laundry, rest and prepare for another awesome week at camp. Paradise Point Camp Staff supervise campers at all times. Some of the camp programs available during stayovers include: target sports, ceramics, waterfront time, boat rides (depending on numbers), exploring downtown McCall, and Sunday Service at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in McCall. If your camper is staying-over between sessions and you would like to arrange a visit or take your camper off-camp, please contact the Camp Director to arrange timing. Checking campers out during stayover weekends follows the same procedure as departure days, camp staff must see the ID of the person picking up the camper, and that person must be on the approved pick-up list for the camper.

### **BROWN BEAR STORE POLICY**

Brown Bear is the camp store where campers can purchase snacks, drinks, and merchandise. Campers are allowed to purchase one snack and one drink item each afternoon and will typically spend \$3/day. In addition to snacks, Paradise Point merchandise is available in Brown Bear and range in price from \$5-\$35 (sweatshirts, water bottles, stuffed animals, etc.).

Balances of less than \$15 at the end of each camp session will be donated to the Camper Scholarship Fund. Balances can be transferred to siblings or family members attending future camp sessions. Parents/guardians have the option to donate balances over \$15 to the Camper Scholarship Fund or have balances refunded via check. All Brown Bear Refunds & Donations will be processed within 30 days of the last day of the last camp session if it is not transferred, typically around October.

### CAMP PICTURES

Each day, Paradise Point staff are able to take pictures of activities on camp and we do our best to get a picture of each camper every day. All photos are uploaded to your online account and available for you to view. The ability to upload photos is dependent on our internet connection and staff availability. Uploads are done about 3 times per week. It may take more time to get all pictures uploaded. Camps that take place partially off-camp will have off-camp pictures uploaded within a week of departure day of that camp. Each week you will be emailed a link to a Google folder with that week's photos, with view only access.

### PARENT/GUARDIAN COMMUNICATION WITH SITS AT CAMP

One of the greatest things camp fosters is the opportunity to gain independence and self-confidence through navigating challenging situations on their own and with the help of peers and staff. Calling home, either while homesick or just to check-in, doesn't allow for this opportunity. Often, when a homesick camper speaks to someone from home, their homesickness is only made worse. Instead, we encourage letter-writing both to and from the family.

The general camp practice is to contact parents when there is concern about an SIT Camper's health and well-being. All other SIT phone contact with parents/guardians is allowed only when approved by the Camp Director. All contact, successful and unsuccessful, is documented. SIT Campers are allowed to use their cell phones during the stay-over weekend. SITs will be encouraged to use this time to call home; however, this is not a requirement.

**Camper Check-In:** This provides apprehensive parents the opportunity to receive a phone call from a staff member reporting on the well-being of their camper. All Camper Check-In requests received by 12:00 PM will be returned the same day. Parents/Guardians may ask for one Camper Check-in per session by calling or emailing the Camp Registrar at <u>registrar@episcopalidaho.org</u> or 208-830-9144.

# SENDING MAIL TO YOUR SIT

#### Please do not include food in care packages.

Campers love to receive mail and care packages when they are away from home. Please make sure to send packages early in the week to make sure your camper receives them while they are at camp. You may also leave a care package at drop-off labeled with your camper's name and date to be delivered. Packages or letters that arrive after your camper has departed will be returned to sender. Thank you for grace if letters or packages are slow to be delivered as the McCall Post Office and Paradise Point Camp manage large volumes of packages and mail in a rural, remote location.

It has been a fun Paradise Point tradition that if a camper receives three letters or a package they will get to be thrown in the lake! They also have the option to sing with other campers or have their Counselor thrown in the lake instead!

Ideas for care packages:

- Anything glow-in-the-dark is a huge hit: bracelets, necklaces, glasses, toys, etc. (no glow-in-the-dark ceiling stickers, please)
- Stationary/Pens to write home
- Something to autograph campers love to get everyone to sign something before they leave.
- Crossword puzzles or any activity books that can be used during Toes Up
- Card games
- Water toys inflatable toys, water guns, diving toys, etc. (no water balloons, please)

Direct mail correspondence to: Camper's Name C/O Paradise Point Camp P.O. Box 764 McCall, ID 83638

### **SENDING EMAIL TO CAMP**

If you would like to email your SIT throughout their week at camp, you can purchase a block of 15 one-way emails for \$5 during registration. You can also invite family and friends to send emails. Each day before lunch we print all emails received in the previous 24 hours and hand out during lunch with the rest of the mail. Any emails sent after 12:00PM on Friday will not be received by your SIT.

### **RECEIVING MAIL FROM CAMP**

Camper letters are taken into the Post Office in McCall in the mornings, Monday through Friday. Each day during Toes Up (rest hour) campers are encouraged to write letters home to their families. Frequently, the camper knows the address, but does not know how to properly address an envelope. Staff will do their best to catch the mistakes before the envelopes get in the mail, however the best way to ensure that you receive a letter from your camper is to send them to camp prepared with paper and pre-addressed, stamped envelopes.

It may be that mail from your SIT is not so cheerful. Remember that campers sometimes write home during homesick moments, or that the act of writing triggers homesickness. In most instances, by the time you receive the letter, your SIT is well-adjusted to camp and having a wonderful time. If you are concerned about a letter you receive from your SIT while they are at camp, please call the Camp Director.

### **CONTACT AFTER CAMP (SITs with Staff and SITs with other campers)**

Camper safety is Paradise Point's primary goal and safety after camp is still a priority. The friendships that form at Camp between staff members and campers are important and have tremendous value.

If contact with staff members is desired after camp, it is suggested that all communication take place through official Paradise Point social media sites (this includes, but is not limited to, Facebook and Instagram) or by mail/email through the Camp Office. Paradise Point advises staff on appropriate communication and healthy boundaries with SIT Campers, which includes all emails and letters being addressed to the SIT's parents or guardians, or phone calls with the parent or guardian present. Online communication on personal accounts between staff members and SITs is not monitored or managed by Paradise Point and Paradise Point is not responsible for the content on the staff member's accounts. The expectation is that all parties (parents, SITs, and staff) use respect and common sense in social media communication or contact outside of Camp.

Paradise Point Social Media Website: paradisepointcamp.org SITs who would like to keep in touch with other SITs or other campers are encouraged to exchange contact information while at Camp. During the registration process parents and guardians can select to share their contact information (address, phone number, and email) if requested by another camper. Parents or Guardians can contact the Camp Administrative Assistant at the Diocesan Office to receive approved contact information. Paradise Point will never share any information with an outside party without your permission.

### **HOMESICKNESS**

Going away to camp for a week or more can be a challenging experience for many campers. Short-term separation from parents and learning independence are both important parts of growing up even though it may not always be easy. Some children find it difficult to cope with the changes that come with spending a week away from home. This anxiety is perfectly normal and happens on occasion.

We spend a lot of time training camp staff on how to deal with homesickness, but parents can help prevent homesickness by doing some simple things prior to their camper's stay at camp.

- Avoid statements such as, "If you don't like camp, you can come home." Children who are experiencing difficulties will close their minds to adapting to camp, and focus immediately on going home. Instead, highlight your camper's ability to be resilient, to self-manage challenging emotions or to speak with a staff member if they feel homesick.
- Process any recent stressful events: Recent deaths of people close to campers or parents who are divorcing can cause extreme stress on a child at camp. Talk to your campers about ways they can process challenging situations and notify the camp to make the staff aware.
- Keep letters short and positive: Parents should avoid statements about missing the camper terribly or disclosure of recent hardships
- Talk about homesickness: Homesickness is natural and certain feelings of missing home, parents, pets, or friends are normal. Once this is understood, your child may accept homesick feelings with less anxiety.

Developing realistic expectations about camp is very important. Parents can sometimes over-glamorize the camp experience. Go ahead and talk about the fun they'll have, but also discuss rainy days; about liking some people more than others; about making choices at camp. By doing this you help your camper understand their feelings, so they are better able to recognize and cope with them.

Many campers fare better at Camp if they are able to see where they will be staying ahead of time. Consider taking at trip to visit Paradise Point, prior to our Youth Camps, so your camper will have an opportunity to see the cabins and other facilities. Please call 208-345-4440 if you would like to set-up a tour. Paradise Point Camp offers a virtual New Family Orientation in the early spring for families, perfect for asking questions and learning about the camp experience.

### FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Is this a paid position? No. Being an SIT is a volunteer, unpaid leadership role at Paradise Point Camp. Many SITs list their participation in this program as volunteer experience and we are happy to provide references when needed or sign any volunteer-hour tracking paperwork.

**Do SITs get time off like counselors?** No, SITs are still campers and not considered staff members. SITs are supervised at all times and are not allowed to be 1-on-1 with staff, campers, or each other. SITs are also not allowed to leave camp property without supervision.

**Can SITs drive themselves to camp?** Only if SITs are coming from a location that does not have camp provided transportation (camp provided transportation includes: Pocatello, Jerome, Boise, Emmett, or Weiser) and they cannot meet the camp provided transportation at any location. In that instance, if SITs have their license, insurance, and parent/guardian permission they are allowed to drive themselves to and from camp. Upon arrival, car keys must be given to a Camp Director and SITs will not be able to use their car during your time at camp. Written permission from the parent/guardian must be given to a Director prior to arrival at camp.

Where do SITs shower? As an SIT, you will shower at the central bath house with the other campers. Staff Bath is not available to anyone that is not a staff member.

## DIRECTIONS TO PARADISE POINT FROM BOISE

- Head west on State Street (Highway 44)
- Turn right onto Highway 55 North and continue 98 miles
- Heading north into McCall on Highway 55 (North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in McCall)
- Turn right onto Deinhard Ln at the traffic light
- Turn left at S Samson Trail (stop sign)
- Continue onto Spring Mountain Ranch Blvd
- Turn right at Lick Creek Road (stop sign) and continue ~2 miles
- Slight left onto Eastside Drive at the fork (look for Paradise Point's sign to point the way)
- Continue 3.5 miles to Camp (pass Camp Morrison, Camp Ida-Haven and Tamarack Condominiums)
- Entrance to Paradise Point is on the left 1 mile after pavement ends

## DIRECTIONS TO PARADISE POINT FROM NEW MEADOWS

- Head east on Highway 55 and continue 12 miles
- Heading east into McCall on Highway 55 (Lake Street in McCall)
- Turn right onto North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in McCall
- Turn left onto Park Street (My Father's Place and May Hardware are on the corner)
- Continue onto Thompson Avenue
- Turn left at Davis Avenue
- Turn right at Lick Creek Road (stop sign) and continue 2 miles
- Slight left onto Eastside Drive at the fork (look for Paradise Point's sign to point the way)
- Continue 3.5 miles to Camp (pass Camp Morrison, Camp Ida-Haven and Tamarack Condominiums)
- Entrance to Paradise Point is on the left 1 mile after pavement ends